

REF 4988
COPY 1 OF 2

March 27, 1956

George:

I have reviewed the minutes of the Suppliers' Meeting of February 29 and March 1, and would like to bring you up-to-date on how they now stand.

Under I-B-3-b, red filters have now been installed and are being flown on all missions with the A Configurations. In addition, there appears to have been some change in the processing procedure for as far as I am now aware, the material being received from EK is satisfactorily exposed. I am still somewhat concerned about the graininess of the film, but I realize there is very little that can be done to improve this aspect. We will continue to operate the red filters until experience shows that light conditions over the target area require more exposure, in which case we will return to the yellow. I believe this point is now under satisfactory control.

Under I-B-3-c, information I have indicates that 70 mm tracking camera film is now being supplied for the purpose of evaluating operational training missions. While I do not have any direct information, I am told that the PI now at the site has been using this film and finds it satisfactory for this requirement. If any information comes to your attention which does not agree with the above, please let me know immediately so that I may take additional action.

It has been reported to me that the need for the vertical mapping camera film is no longer a site requirement since the 70 mm is usable for this purpose. In this connection, we have an engineer at the site this week to review the 70 mm problems with the operational personnel and with the PI so that if there are any remaining difficulties not known to me he should uncover them and take the necessary action. When I receive his report, I will make its contents known to you.

I-B-3-d. As a result of current activity at the base, I am told that a ground trainer for the periscope is being installed. This consists of a high platform in one of the hangars upon which a pilot may sit to operate a periscope and hand control unit to practice following a bug drawn across the floor of the hangar by a string and winch mechanism. This can be used at such time as the hangar is not occupied by aircraft. Our engineer at the base is in a position to supervise the installation and initial activity on this training aid.

I-B-3-e. We have provided a Polaroid type anti-reflectance shield for the periscope, and the report to me is that it is quite satisfactory. We have five additional ones in manufacture on a crash basis, and these will be sent to the site as soon as they are completed. It is unfortunate that the invention of the necessary device was so long delayed, but I am grateful that it came at all. We have removed the yellow filter from several of the periscopes, and are awaiting comments on the relative merits of this filter under hazier conditions than we have so far encountered.

25X1

25X1

George

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I-B-4-b. [] reports to me that he now intends to provide alternate 25X1 governors for the "B" camera for ground installation, and that it is impractical from a weight standpoint to provide a cockpit controlled governor for this camera. I-B-4-C. Continued examination of A-1 and A-2 has disclosed no practical way of providing either cockpit controlled or ground installed variable governors for these configurations. The motors and mechanisms of the programmer are quite different than in "B". Nevertheless, we will attempt to increase the overlap as much as is practical so that a complete stereo will be available under a wide variety of operating conditions.

I-B-4-d. Your minutes indicate that [] should prepare templates 25X1 for flight plotting from 70 mm film. I believe this arises from the fact that [] reported that such templates were in use at the site. 25X1 We, at P-E, now intend to make some large scale drawings of proper templates, and will supply photographic copies of these drawings to the proper scale to your PI group, to the PI at the site, and for the use of Detachment A. Whatever templates are now in use are based on a very rough set of computations which I performed sometime ago to aid me in analyzing some early 70 mm film. While these are probably satisfactory, they are rough and should be improved.

The last time I was in Washington, Dick B. read us some material from your report, and during the reading, we compared it with the test site activity daily report supplied by the ground crew concerned with photographic equipment. I left a copy of this daily report with you, and I would like to call your attention in general to certain inconsistencies between our report and the one which you have received. I do not believe that any change in conclusions should be required but there would appear to be certain differences of fact. I hope these can be cleared away to everyone's satisfaction.

Sometime ago on a visit to Washington, we agreed that your PI, upon examining the material either at EK or after it was shipped to you, would prepare a report of his findings. I have not seen any of these reports but I certainly hope they are being prepared so that they may be forwarded to me as well as to the group at the site and at Hycon. I believe it is extremely important that these reports complete the cycle so that progress can be achieved in the area of improved photographic results. You will remember at that time I made a point of the effect on morale in this group whose activity continues to pour film into a pipeline without any information coming back to them.



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